



## Multimodal Transportation Impact Study Guideline Update

# January Study Newsletter

Nashville Department of Transportation and Multimodal Infrastructure has undertaken a project to modernize the Traffic Impact Study (TIS) Guidelines. The [current guidelines](#) were developed nearly 20 years ago, in a time when technical best practices and Nashville's infrastructure were much different. Nearly all of Nashville's guiding planning documents have been developed since the development of the 2004 Guidelines, changing the vision and direction of transportation infrastructure for the Metro area. The goal of the current guideline update is to incorporate current best practices in technical analysis and ensure the TIS Guidelines are consistent with the vision the public has painted for the future of Nashville.



September 2007



February 2022

## Project Scope and Schedule

The project will follow a process like many planning projects including an assessment of existing conditions, evaluation of needs, and development of the improvements, or in this case a new guidelines document. Stakeholder engagement is part of each step and will include the development community, transportation planners, and traffic engineers located or practicing in the Nashville area.

The project started in late October 2022 and is currently in the middle of an existing condition assessment. This evaluation includes an in-depth evaluation of existing NDOT guidance and an evaluation of current practices in peer cities. The peer cities consist of cities with a similar makeup to Nashville or a similar vision of a future transportation network, including: Austin, Seattle, and Washington DC. It is anticipated that this phase of the study will wrap up late next month.

The next phase will include the development of recommendations and the subsequent guideline update. Additionally, digital tools will provide developers with better access to the data required for TIS development, and streamline NDOT staff reviews will be evaluated.

Below is the current schedule for the study. The plan is for most of the work to be wrapped up by late Spring with the only task continuing into the Summer being the potential digital tool/solution development.

Task	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Existing Conditions and Peer Research		[Blue bar]			★				
Interim Instructional Bulletin			[Blue bar]						
Policy and Process Revisions				[Blue bar]			★		
Digital Solution Development			[Blue bar]						

★ Stakeholder Meetings

## THIS MONTH'S ACTIVITIES

The following activities are planned to take place over the next month:

### Stakeholder Engagement Meeting # 1

As part of an ongoing commitment to involve major stakeholders throughout the process, the study team will be hosting a virtual stakeholder engagement meeting from 1 – 2:30 PM on Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of this first, major stakeholder meeting will be to make the development/planning/engineering community aware of the project and seek their feedback on challenges they face with the existing guidelines. The meeting will include a formal presentation and a series of three breakout sessions where attendees will have small group discussions on the topics of the submittal process, technical requirements, and travel demand management/multimodal elements.

The study team has reached out to multiple professional organizations including Urban Land Institute Nashville, Tennessee Chapter of the American Planning Association, and the Tennessee Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers. As of January 9<sup>th</sup>, 40 professionals had registered to attend the online event.

For more information, or to register, [click here.](#)

### Interim Technical Bulletin Development

While the plan is to move expediently to develop the new guidelines, there are several areas where the current guidelines are in conflict with the 2017 Code or where major elements such as pedestrian and bicycle access are not mentioned. The project team will be preparing an Interim Technical Bulletin that will be distributed to the development community and serve to clarify the requirements on these critical items while the new guidelines are in development.

## Staying Connected to the Study

A [project webpage](#) has been set up to share information with the public about this study. While we will mainly be reaching out to stakeholders through professional organizations, there is a contact form on the website to sign up for direct e-mails on feedback opportunities and updates.

For NDOT and Nashville Metro staff, we will be sending out monthly e-mail updates on the status of the study and upcoming activities so you can stay informed on the progress of this exciting project.

If you have additional questions or want to discuss any element further, please reach out to NDOT Project Manager Melisa Hancock at [melisa.hancock@nashville.gov](mailto:melisa.hancock@nashville.gov) or (615) 862-5056.